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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/533,609
Applicant : Shin ISHIKAWA et al
Filed : May 11, 2005
TC/A.U. : 1795
Confirm. No.: 1780
Examiner : Gregg CANTELMO
Docket No. : 05259/HG
Customer No.: 01933

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

BOX AMENDMENT

S I R :

This is in response to the Office Action of November 19,
2008 which is a restriction requirement under 35 USC 121 and 372.

Restriction requirement between:

"Group I claim(s) 1-5 and 7-16, drawn to stainless steel
compositions.

Group II claim(s) 17-31, drawn to a PEM fuel cell having a
stainless steel separator plate."

The invention of Group I, namely claims 1-5 and 7-16 is
provisionally elected.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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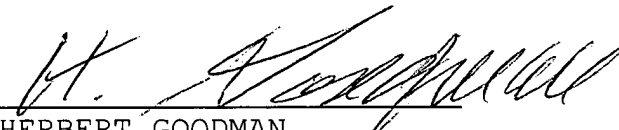
Attorney: Herbert Goodman

Dated: December 3, 2008

In the event that this Paper is late
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No. 06-1378.

The restriction requirement is traversed on the basis that the fuel cell specified in each of claims 17-31 is characterized by the novel and unobvious stainless steel separator which is dependent from respective Group I stainless steel compositions. When the claims directed to the stainless steel compositions are allowed, it is respectfully requested that the Group II claims be rejoined on the basis that such claims cannot be obvious taking into consideration that the stainless steel separator specified therein is itself novel and unobvious.

Respectfully submitted,


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